

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

May 29, 2013

TO: Internal File

THRU: James Owen, Lead JEO

FROM: Amanda Daniels, Hydrologist AD

RE: Phase III Bond Release, Plateau Mining Corporation, Star Point Mine, Permit C/007/0006, Task # 4320

SUMMARY:

On April 3, 2013, the Division received an application from Plateau Mining Corporation (PMC) for phase III bond release for the Star Point Mine. Phase I bond release was approved by the Division on October 12, 2004. Phase II bond release was approved on January 14, 2009. In the fall of 2012 the Division approved the repair of channels SPRD-31 and SPRD-30. These channels were damaged due to major storm events falling on the Seeley Fire burn area at the head of the Star Point watershed. A site visit was conducted by the Division on May 23, 2013.

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TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:

HYDROLOGIC INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 784.14, 784.29, 817.41, 817.42, 817.43, 817.45, 817.49, 817.56, 817.57; R645-301-512, -301-513, -301-514, -301-515, -301-532, -301-533, -301-542, -301-723, -301-724, -301-725, -301-726, -301-728, -301-729, -301-731, -301-733, -301-742, -301-743, -301-750, -301-751, -301-760, -301-761.

Analysis:

During the site visit on May 23, 2013 drainage channels were inspected throughout the reclaimed mine area. All temporary drainage structures had been removed and the permanent channels looked stable without any significant damage. Channels SPRD-30 and SPRD-31 were repaired in the fall of 2012 and were inspected closely during the site visit. The channels were returned to their original design which included rip-rap, topsoil, and seeding. No problems were found during the inspection of these channels.

Findings:

The application is considered adequate to meet the requirements of phase III bond release.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The application is recommended for approval.

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